

IAP6 Rec'd PCT/PTO 02 DEC 2005

Patents

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

PASCAL PAGANON

Appln. No.: TBA

Filed: December 2, 2005

Title: SURGICAL RING WITH AN IMPROVED  
CLOSURE SYSTEM

Confirmation No.: TBA

Group Art Unit: TBA

Examiner: TBA

Atty. Docket No. 148821.00001  
Customer ID 25207

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The citation of information on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant(s), is made pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56 and 1.97.

☒ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

- ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d).
- ☒ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.
- ☐ Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period specified in 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d), Applicant(s) make the following certification:

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

OR

- ☐ Applicant(s) enclose the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
- ☐ Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by the following statement pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e):

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

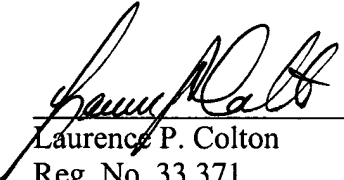
AND

- ☐ Applicant(s) enclose the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

- ☐ Pursuant to M.P.E.P. Section 609C(1), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the payment of an issue fee, but without the certification and fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.97(d). Applicants respectfully request that this Information Disclosure Statement be placed in the file of the instant application.

Applicants also note that the references cited in this Information Disclosure Statement were submitted in the parent application to which this application claims priority.

Respectfully submitted,  
POWELL GOLDSTEIN LLP

  
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

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Application Number	TBA
Filing Date	December 2, 2005
First Named Inventor	Pascal Paganon
Art Unit	TBA
Examiner Name	TBA
Attorney Docket Number	148821.00001

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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